



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty Docket No. A01460
KC/bk

In re application of:
Jean Luc Sibiet et al.

:

Serial No. 10/698,183

:

Group Art Unit: not yet assigned

Filed: October 31, 2003

:

Examiner: not yet assigned

For: Method for Brightening Virgin Mechanical Pulp

03/10/2004 LWONDIM1 00000001 10698183

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PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a)

MAIL STOP PETITIONS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The inventors' undersigned attorney has been unable, despite diligent efforts, to obtain a signed declaration from joint inventor Maurice J.A. Haché. Accordingly, the other inventors file this Petition, on behalf of themselves and Mr. Haché, to proceed with the subject application without Mr. Haché. The pertinent facts regarding efforts to obtain a signed declaration are summarized below.

1. On November 5, 2002, Rohm and Haas Company filed the subject application as a provisional application; the USPTO assigned it serial no. 60/423,887. On November 5, 2002, Rebecca Knauth, Administrative Assistant for the Rohm and Haas Company Law Department, sent a copy of the provisional application to Mr. Haché at his Rohm and Haas Company office, which was located in North Andover, MA.

2. On January 15, 2003, Ms. Knauth sent Mr. Haché a declaration, a power-of-attorney form and an assignment to be filed with the corresponding non-provisional application, which was intended to be identical to the provisional application, together with instructions for executing and returning these documents and a pre-paid FedEx mailer. Mr. Haché had been an inventor on previous patent applications and was aware of Rohm and Haas Company procedures in this area. The documents were sent to Mr. Haché's home address (shown below in paragraph 6) because his employment with Rohm and Haas Company terminated on December 31, 2002.

3. On August 11, 2003, since Ms. Knauth had not received signed documents from Mr. Haché, she called him at his home telephone and left a message asking him to call her regarding the documents. Mr. Haché returned the call on September 10, stating that he had been on "an extended vacation." On the same day, Ms. Knauth sent another declaration, power-of-attorney form and an assignment to Mr. Haché at his home address, again with instructions and a pre-paid mailer.

4. Ms. Knauth still had not received signed documents from Mr. Haché on October 1, 2003, whereupon she called Mr. Haché at home to inquire about the declaration, power-of-attorney and assignment documents. He stated that he had not executed them because the assignment required notarization and he did not want to pay the fee. Ms. Knauth assured him that Rohm and Haas Company would reimburse him for the notary fee, and asked him to execute and return the documents. On October 16, not having received signed documents, Ms. Knauth called Mr. Haché again to inquire about the documents; this time he stated that he had not signed them because he had been ill.

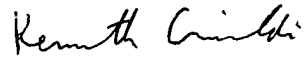
5. Rohm and Haas Company filed the subject application as a non-provisional application on October 31, 2003. On that day, Ms. Knauth sent a copy of the non-provisional application to Mr. Haché at his home address, together with a note reminding him that he needed to execute and return the declaration and assignment she had sent earlier.

6. Despite numerous requests made to Mr. Haché, both by mail and by telephone, as summarized above, Rohm and Haas Company still has not received a signed declaration from Mr. Haché, and has concluded that he refuses to sign. To the best of our knowledge, his current address is as follows:

Maurice J.A. Haché
262 Beacon Street
Andover, MA 01810

Applicants respectfully request that this Petition be granted to allow prosecution of the subject application without the declaration of Mr. Haché, and submit herewith the required petition fee of \$130.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h).

Respectfully submitted,



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Rohm and Haas Company
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March 2, 2004